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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/781,645	02/20/2004	Takahiro Goto	Q79923	2125

23373 7590 04/17/2007
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

GILLIAM, BARBARA LEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1752

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/17/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/781,645

Applicant(s)

GOTO, TAKAHIRO

Examiner

Barbara L. Gilliam

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 and 10-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 and 10-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed January 30, 2007 has been entered and fully considered.
2. Claims 4-6, 10-19 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

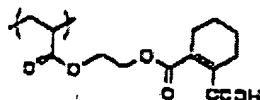
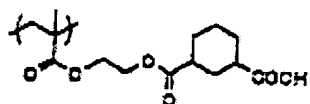
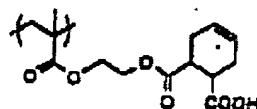
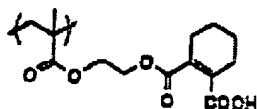
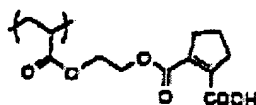
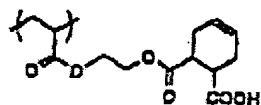
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 4-6, 10-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over NAKAMURA et al. (EP 1 223 196 A2) in view of OSHIMA (EP 1 176 467 A1).

a. NAKAMURA et al. teach a negative image-recording material, used to make a printing plate, wherein the negative image-recording material comprises a cyanine IR absorbent, a radical generator, a radically polymerizable compound and polymer binder (abstract; [0088]-[0096], claims 1 and 29). The IR absorbents of formula (3), (3-1), IR-1, IR-2, and IR-5 meet the present limitations for the presently claimed infrared absorbing compound. A sulfonium salt is among the preferred radical generators and is represented by general formula (V) (claims 15-20; [0066]-[0069]). In general formula (V), R31, R32 and R33 are optionally substituted hydrocarbon groups having at most 20 carbon atoms. Examples of substituents include halogen atoms.

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Nakamura et al. do not exemplify a sulfonium salt having three aryl groups two of which are substituted specifically with chlorine atoms however it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate any halogen substituent including chlorine atoms. Other preferred radical generators include iodonium salts and diazonium salts, which can be used alone or in combination of two or more (claims 15-20; [0066]-[0072]). Linear organic polymers, soluble or swellable in water or weakly alkaline water, are preferred as the binder polymer ([0088]). NAKAMURA et al. does not teach the binder polymer required in the present application. However, based on the teachings of OSHIMA it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the binder polymer having a repeating unit of formula (I) wherein R^2 represents a hydrocarbon group which has an alicyclic structure and has 3 to 30 carbon atoms in order to obtain sufficient print durability and high productivity (abstract; [0013]-[0030]) such as



which meet the

present limitations for the same. According to NAKAMURA et al., especially preferred

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supports of the image forming material are aluminum supports having a center line average roughness between 0.1 and 1.2 μm ([0116]-[0127]).

Response to Arguments

5. The Examiner is aware of Claim 19 and has fully examined said claim on the merits.
6. In light of the amendment, the rejection over NAKAMURA et al. (EP 1 223 196 A2) in view of OSHIMA (JP 2002-040652) is withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground of rejection is made in view of NAKAMURA et al. (EP 1 223 196 A2) in view of OSHIMA (EP 1 176 467 A1).

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

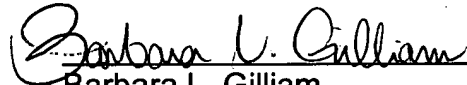
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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara L. Gilliam whose telephone number is 571-272-1330. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

a. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia H. Kelly can be reached on 571-272-1526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

b. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Barbara L. Gilliam
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1752

bg
April 12, 2007